

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An electronic device having digital data stored thereon, said electronic device comprising:

a packetizer for manipulating said digital data into a plurality of packets;

a communication controller for opportunistically establishing communication between
5 said electronic device and at least one remote transport device; and

a transceiver for singly transmitting copies of said packets to said at least one remote transport device and receiving communication signals from ones of said at least one remote transport devices.

2. The electronic device of claim 1 further comprising:

a memory controller for singly deleting said digital data that corresponds to said transmitted copies of said packets.

3. The electronic device of claim 1 further comprising:

an interactive memory controller wherein a user selects ones of said digital data corresponding to said transmitted copies of said packets for deletion.

4. The electronic device of claim 1 wherein said at least one remote transport device comprises:

a connection to a communication network;

a transceiver for facilitating communication with external devices; and

5 a data processor for sending ones of said transmitted copies of said packets over said communication network.

5. The electronic device of claim 1 wherein said memory controller saves a reduced representation of said digital data.

6. The electronic device of claim 1 wherein said transmitter is a wireless personal area network (WPAN) transmitter.

7. The electronic device of claim 1 wherein said transmitter sends multiple copies of each transmitted packet.

8. The electronic device of claim 1 wherein said memory controller receives a signal acknowledging receipt of said transmitted copy before singly deleting said packet.

9. The electronic device of claim 1 further comprising:
a switch for deactivating said transceiver.

10. The electronic device of claim 9 wherein said switch is selectable by a user.

11. The electronic device of claim 1 further comprising:
a file manager providing a user options for selecting ones of said digital data for transmission from said device.

12. A method for managing memory resources on an electronic device comprising the steps of:

packetizing data stored on said electronic device;

establishing a communication link with at least one neighboring electronic device;

5 transmitting a copy of a single packet to said at least one neighboring electronic device; and

communicating said transmitted copy from said at least one neighboring electronic device to a collection host.

13. The method of claim 12 further comprising the step of:

deleting said data corresponding to said single packet after said associated copy is transmitted.

14. The method of claim 12 further comprising the step of:

selectably deleting said data corresponding to said single packet after said associated copy is transmitted.

15. The method of claim 12 wherein said establishing step comprises the steps of:

broadcasting a hail within a transmission radius centered about said electronic device;

receiving reply transmissions from at least one neighboring electronic device within said transmission radius; and

5 creating a data channel between said electronic device and said at least one neighboring electronic device.

16. The method of claim 12 further comprising the step of:
transmitting additional copies of said single packet to other of said at least one
neighboring electronic device.

17. The method of claim 12 further comprising the steps of:
issuing an acknowledgment from said collection host addressed to said electronic
device;
receiving said acknowledgment; and
performing said deleting step after said receiving step.

18. The method of claim 12 further comprising the step of:
reassembling said received packets at said collection host into a copy of said data
stored on said electronic device.

19. The method of claim 12 further comprising the steps of:
partially reassembling said packets at said electronic device into a thumbnail version
of said data stored on said electronic device prior to said deleting step; and
storing said thumbnail version on said electronic device.

20. The method of claim 12 further comprising the step of:
checking said transmitted copy for errors.

21. A system of managing memory resources on an electronic device comprising:

means for packetizing original data stored on said memory resources;

means for hailing surrounding transport devices;

means for establishing communication channels with ones of said surrounding

5 transport devices responding to said hail;

means for singly transmitting copies of said packets to said ones of said surrounding transport devices;

means for forwarding said singly transmitted copies from said surrounding transport devices to a collection point; and

10 means at said collection point for reassembling said forwarded copies into a copy of said original data.

22. The system of claim 20 further comprising:

means for saving reduced copies of said original data from ones of said packets corresponding to said transmitted copies.

23. The system of claim 20 further comprising:

means for selectively deleting portions of said original data corresponding to said transmitted copies of said packets.

24. The system of claim 21 further comprising:

means for checking errors in said forwarded copies.